



2124  
2h

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Sun Reference: P5292  
Attorney Docket No. 06502.0374

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Guy L. STEELE, JR. ) Group Art Unit: 2124  
)  
Application No.: 10/028,375 ) Examiner: Tan V. Mai  
)  
Filed: December 28, 2001 )  
)  
For: TOTAL ORDER COMPARATOR ) Confirmation No.: 3351  
UNIT FOR COMPARING VALUES )  
OF TWO FLOATING POINT )  
OPERANDS )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a certification as specified by Section 1.97(e).

Based on reasonable inquiry, no document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and no document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement

was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached. Copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.


If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 23, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
D. Kent Stier  
Reg. No. 50,640  
(404) 653-6559

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/028,375
		Filing Date	December 28, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Guy L. STEELE, JR.
		Art Unit	2124
		Examiner Name	Tan V. Mai
		Attorney Docket Number	06502.0374
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		6,732,134	05/04/2004	Rosenberg et al.	
		6,594,681	07/15/2003	Prabhu	
		6,138,135	10/24/2000	Karp	
		5,963,461	10/05/1999	Gorshtein et al.	
		5,953,241	09/14/1999	Hansen et al.	
		5,892,697	04/06/1999	Brakefield	
		5,812,439	09/22/1998	Hansen	
		5,481,489	01/02/1996	Yanagida et al.	

**Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.